

United States Department of Agriculture

StrikeForce for Rural Growth and Opportunity SOUTH CAROLINA

http://www.usda.gov/strikeforce

South Carolina Quick Facts

StrikeForce state since	2013
Number of SF counties	27
Total outreach events FY13	215
Number of partners	50

Contacts

Contact us to be a partner or learn more:

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Some of Our Partners

Center for Heirs Property
Preservation

Midlands Local Food Collaborative

Minority Landowner Magazine

SC Community Loan Fund

SC Rural Resource Coalition

SC Soil and Water Conservation Districts

SC State University 1890 Extension Program







Rural Americans face many unique challenges every day and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides assistance to help rural communities prosper. Unfortunately, 85% of America's persistent poverty counties are in rural America – and we can't allow these areas to be left behind

That is why in 2010, Agriculture Secretary Vilsack launched the StrikeForce for Rural Growth and Opportunity (StrikeForce) - a coordinated effort to increase economic opportunities and address the needs of rural communities suffering from persistent poverty. In collaboration with over 400 partners, including other federal agencies, community based organizations, state based agencies and local partners, USDA is providing targeted technical assistance and other support to leverage results.

Since then, StrikeForce has spread to over 700 counties across twenty states and is showing significant results. Since the inception of StrikeForce, USDA has invested more than \$9.7 billion in target areas to support 80,300 projects.

Highlights

An example of the renewed commitment to effective outreach is our partnership with *Minority Landowner Magazine*. With the magazine's publisher, we implemented a series of outreach workshops targeting South Carolina's StrikeForce counties. The workshops were designed to give participants a better understanding of USDA programs and services, and enabled customers to communicate one-on-one with USDA representatives. These events also featured hands-on conservation demonstrations. "Raise a High Tunnel" workshops were very effective and led to more applications to the Environmental Quality Incentives Program for these innovative green houses.

In addition, a successful new collaboration with the Center for Heirs Property Preservation helped to present information on a variety of topics, including landownership and deed requirements for USDA programs especially regarding forests and conservation.

South Carolina StrikeForce Counties

StrikeForce Agency Total Investments FY 2013

	Farm Service Agency		Cons	l Resources servation ervice	Rural Development		Grand Total			
State Name	Total Loans	Total Funding	Total Contracts	Total Funding	Total Loans and Grants	Total Funding	Total Loans and Grants	Total Contracts	Total Funding	
South Carolina	300	\$41 million	483	\$8.6 million	768	\$132.7 million	1,068	483	\$182.3 million	

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